

Thanksgiving Day

1 Read about Thanksgiving Day in the USA.

Thanksgiving Day is a very important day in the USA. We celebrate it in autumn, on the fourth Thursday in November. What are we celebrating? My school project tells the story.

Thanksgiving Day by Daniel Johnson

It's 1620 and English people are arriving in America after a long and terrible trip.



The first winter is very cold. The English people are very hungry, because they can't grow food to eat. They don't know the strange new American foods like corn, beans, pumpkins and turkeys.



But in spring 1621, they meet Squanto. He is an American Indian and he helps the English people. He can speak English and in this picture he is showing them how to grow corn.

This picture shows the first Thanksgiving Feast. It's November 1621 and it's autumn. The Indians and the English are eating together. Maybe they're having turkey, mashed potato, corn and pumpkin pie like we do now! The English are celebrating, because they are alive after their first year and they have food for the next winter.



2 Read Daniel's school project and find the words.



1 a _____



2 w _____



3 c _____



4 b _____



5 s _____



6 t _____



7 m _____



8 p _____

3 Read and answer the questions about Thanksgiving.

- When do people celebrate Thanksgiving?
November
- Where are the people from in picture 1?
- Who helps them grow things to eat?
- What year is the first Thanksgiving feast?
- Who are the English celebrating with?
- What do people eat on this day?

4 In pairs, ask and answer questions about a celebration in Portugal.

- A: When is the celebration?
B: It's in / on ...
A: What's it called?
B: It's called ...
A: What is it for?
B: It's to celebrate ...

Project

A special day

1 Think of a celebration in your country and write about it.

2 Write an introduction

- When is the celebration?
- What is it for?
- What do you do in your family, or with friends?
- Why is this celebration special for you?
- What do you like / not like about it?

3 Find some pictures and label them.

- In this picture, people are cooking / eating ...
- They're running / singing / dancing ...



In this photo, we are celebrating Dia de Santo António. We celebrate this day on the ...

April Fool's Day

1 Read about April Fool's Day in different countries.

Matt's blog

Hey! My name's Matt and it's April Fool's Day tomorrow. I'm starting to think of ideas for some pranks I can play on my friends – or maybe my little brother! It's a popular day in the US and I guess it's a popular day in lots of different countries, but it isn't always on April 1st. In Mexico and Spain they have it on December 28th. And in Germany they have it on the 1st *and* the 30th April! Did you know that, in the US, we say 'pulling a prank', but in England, they say 'playing a trick!?' In the US the usual prank is to stick a piece of paper that says 'KICK ME!' on someone's back. In France they try to stick a paper fish on someone's back. Then they shout 'APRIL FISH!' – but they say it in French, of course! In the USA, you can pull pranks in the morning. After midday, YOU are the fool! I love pulling pranks! My dad always says: 'Have fun, but *don't* get into trouble!' Anyway, here are some of my favourite ideas.



In the morning, run into your mom and dad's room and shout 'Mom, Dad! It's snowing!'



Put a little ball paper in the end of your dad's shoes. Then watch as he tries to put them on!



On the way to school, say to your friend 'Are you ready for the exam today?'



The day before April Fool's Day, boil an egg, so it's hard. Then watch as your mom tries to break the egg into the frying pan!

What about you? What are your favourite ideas? Write and tell me, because I need some new pranks!

2 Read the text. How do you say these things in American English?

- 1 play a trick
- 2 I think

3 Read and answer the questions.

- 1 When is April Fool's Day in the US?
April 1st
- 2 On what date is Matt writing?
- 3 What date is April Fool's Day in Mexico?
- 4 What's unusual about April Fool's Day in Germany?
- 5 What's a popular trick in the US?
- 6 How do you say *poisson d'avril* in English?
- 7 Why can't you play a trick after midday?
- 8 What can you put into your dad's shoes?
- 9 Why doesn't the egg break into the frying pan?

4 In pairs, think of two tricks to describe to your partner. Ask and answer about your ideas.

- Who do you play the trick on?
- Where do you do it? At school, at home, in the kitchen ... ?
- Do you need to get ready for the trick? What do you need to do?
- What do you say before or after the trick?

A: Who do you play the trick on?

B: I play it on ...

A: Where do ... ?

B: In / At ...

A: When ... ?

B: On / In / At ... ?

Project

April Fool's Day

1 Draw a picture of a trick, or a cartoon strip to show your ideas for April Fool's Day. Write a description of how to do the trick.

- What is April Fool's Day called in Portugal?
- Who do you play a trick on?
- Where do you do it?
- When ... ?
- Do you need to get ready?
- What do you need to do?
- What do you say before or after the trick?



Grandparents' Day

1 Read about Grandparents' Day in the USA.



Grandparents' Day is an important day in America. It is in September and it is usually on the first or second Sunday. A housewife called Marian Lucille Herndon McQuade started National Grandparents' Day in 1973 in West Virginia. She wanted grandchildren and grandparents to have a special day to show their love. The Forget-me-not is the official flower of Grandparents' Day.

Melinda's page

Hi! My name is Melinda and this is a photograph of me and my granddad. I live in California and my granddad lives in San Francisco. On Grandparents' Day he visits us for the weekend and we do something fun. Sometimes we go to the cinema and we eat popcorn! Other times we go to the park. Mom makes us a picnic and after that we feed the ducks. I love Grandparents' Day and I love my granddad!



My Granddad
He helps me with homework,
And I iron his shirts.
He always says 'yes',
When mom says 'no'.
His words are kind when I feel sad,
My Granddad.

At school we make cards to give to our grandparents. Last year I wrote a poem about my granddad too and I won a prize for it. My granddad was really proud and came to my school to watch the school principal give me my prize. He clapped a lot and so did my mom and dad! ☺

mom = (Am E)
mum = (Br E)



2 Read about Grandparents' Day and find the words.



1 f _____



2 c _____



3 t _____



4 d _____



5 p _____



6 p _____

3 Read and answer the questions.

- When is Grandparents' Day in the USA?
September
- Who created it?
- Where did it start in America?
- What is the official flower called?
- What does Melinda do with her granddad?
- How does her granddad help her?
- Why did she win a prize?
- Who gave her the prize?

4 In pairs, talk about Grandparents' Day in Portugal.

- When do you celebrate this day?
- Where do your grandparents live?
- Do you see them on Grandparents' Day?
- Do you do anything special?
- Why is your granddad/grandma special?

A: When is Grandparents' Day in Portugal?
B: It's on 26th ...

Project

Grandparents' Day

1 Write a poem about your grandparents or family. Use Melinda's poem to help you.

- Write some ideas.
What does he/she do that is kind?
What does he/she help you with?
What do you do for him/her?
- Write some words that rhyme.
homework/shirt, sad/granddad...
- Use the linking words *and*, *but*, *when*.



My grandma
My grandma is old,
And I am young.
But that doesn't matter,
Because she's my friend.